

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 02/023K	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/EP2003/005737	International filing date (day/month/year) 02 June 2003 (02.06.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 07 June 2002 (07.06.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC A22C 13/00		
Applicant KALLE GMBH & CO. KG		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:

a. (*sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau*) a total of 10 sheets, as follows:

sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).

sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.

b. (*sent to the International Bureau only*) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 15 December 2003 (15.12.2003)	Date of completion of this report 08 September 2004 (08.09.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

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International application No.

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Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is language of a translation furnished for the purpose of:

- international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
- international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

The international application as originally filed/furnished

the description:

pages _____ 1 _____, as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ 2-9 _____ received by this Authority on _____ 06 July 2004 (06.07.2004)
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the claims:

pages _____, as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 pages* _____ 1-10 _____ received by this Authority on _____ 06.07.04
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the drawings:

pages _____, as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages _____
 the claims, Nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

the description, pages _____
 the claims, Nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	YES
	Claims	1 NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	YES
	Claims	1-10 NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-10 YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations

- 1) US-A-3 965 537 is the closest prior art. D1 describes a tubular food skin made of cellulose which is sealed at one end with a flat transversal seam. The transversal seam is a joint seam in the form of a (hot) sealed seam (column 4, lines 13-20; claims 1-3 and figure 2a).

The present claim 1 relates to a tubular food skin which is sealed at one end by a flat transversal seam. The skin is made from, e.g., cellulose (which can be merely "optionally" fibre-reinforced) and the transversal seam is a joint seam in the form of a sealed seam.

The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore not novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

- 2) Claims 2-10 are dependent claims which relate to the non-novel independent claim 1. It is therefore not possible to reach a positive statement with respect to novelty or inventive step (PCT Article 33(2) and (3)), especially since the additional features relate to additional embodiments that are already known to a person skilled in the art.

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- 3) The subject matter of the present international application is considered industrially applicable (PCT Article 33(4)).